Launching of Satellites

†3944. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of satellites launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the number of those which were successful and are working in the space;

(c) the number of satellites proposed to be launched during the Tenth Five Year Plan period; and

(d) the salient features of those satellites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Eight satellites have been launched during the Ninth Five-Year Plan period.

(b) Out of the 8 Satellites launched, 6 were operational satellites and 2 were experimental satellites. All the operational satellites have been successful and put to operational use except INSAT-2D satellite which was abandoned in October, 1997 due to unexpected massive shortage in the power supply system in the satellite. (The loss was compensated by the insurance proceeds and further, to maintain the INSAT space segment capacity, ARABSAT-1C was procured in orbit and re-designated as INSAT-2DT). The experimental satellites launched during Ninth plan have also fulfilled the test objectives.

(c) It is envisaged to launch about 22 satellites during the Tenth Five Year Plan period.

(d) The salient features of the satellites planned for the Tenth Plan are:

(i) Fourth generation INSAT-4 satellites with high power transponders.

(ii) Radar Imaging Microwave Satellite.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(iii) High resolution remote sensing satellites.

(iv) A joint Indo-French satellite "MEGHA-TROPIQUES" for the study of tropical weather systems.

(v) Multi-wavelength astronomy satellite "ASTROSAT".

Non-Utilisation of Funds Sanctioned Under MPLADS

3945. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of non-utilisation of funds allocated under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) by some of the MPs.

(b) if so, the amount remained unspent/unutilised during the last year, State-wise;

(c) whether works have not been executed in some cases even after sanction of works and issue of administrative approvals;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government for utilisation of funds under MPLADS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the District Heads about Rs. 2284 crores, remained unutilised as on 31.03.2002 under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. Statement indicating the funds released by the Government of India, expenditure incurred, unspent balanced and percentage utilisation over release under the Scheme, State-wise from inception till 31.3.2002 is enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) Works under the Scheme are taken up on recommendations of the Members of Parliament and are implemented by the District Heads following the established procedure of the concerned State. This is an ongoing and continuous